

## Patent Claims

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1. Installation for coating objects, in particular  
5 vehicle bodies and parts thereof, comprising
- a) a coating booth, in which at least one  
application device is arranged;
  - 10 b) a drying booth downstream of the coating booth;
  - c) a plurality of skids having two skid runners  
which run parallel to the movement direction and  
each carrying at least one object to be coated;
  - 15 d) a skid-conveying system, on which the skid  
runners of the skids rest and which guides the  
skids through the coating booth and the drying  
booth,
  - 20 characterised in that
  - e) adjacent skids (2) are movable into one another  
such that they partially overlap in the movement  
25 direction.
2. Installation according to claim 1, characterised in  
that the skids (2) have a supporting structure (11)  
comprising:
- 30 a) a supporting frame (12, 12'), of which the sides  
running parallel to the movement direction are  
formed by the two skid runners (13, 14), the

first skid runner (13) projecting forwards beyond the supporting frame (12) in the movement direction, while the second skid runner (14) projects rearwards beyond the supporting frame (12) counter to the movement direction;

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- b) a front support, which is connected to the supporting frame (12) and projects forwards beyond the supporting frame (12) parallel to the first skid runner (13), but is at a distance from the first skid runner (13) which is less than the distance between the two skid runners (13, 14);
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- c) a rear support (16), which is connected to the supporting frame (12) and projects rearwards beyond the supporting frame (12) parallel to the second skid runner (14), but is at a distance from the second skid runner (14) which is less than the distance between the two skid runners (13, 14).
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3. Installation according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that each skid (2) has stops (17, 18, 19', 20') which define the extent to which adjacent skids (2) are movable into another.
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4. Installation according to claim 3, characterised in that each skid (2) has first stops (17, 18, 19', 20'), which define the extent to which adjacent skids (2) carrying identical objects (5, 6, 7, 8) are movable into one another, and second stops (13 to 16, 13' to 16'), which define the extent to which adjacent
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skids (2, 2') carrying different objects (5, 6, 7, 8) are movable into one another.

5. Installation according to claim 4, characterised in  
5 that the second stops are formed by the skid  
runners (13, 14, 13', 14') and/or the supports (15,  
16, 15', 16').